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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.

09/991,971

Confirmation No. 8814

Applicant

Markku AHOTUPA

Filed

26 November 2001

TC/A.U.

1644

Examiner

Phuong N. Huynh

Docket No.

2630-113

Customer No.:

6449

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131(a)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

We, Markku AHOTUPA, John ERIKSSON, Lauri KANGAS, Mikko UNKILA, Janne KOMI, Merja PERÄLÄ, and Helena KORTE, applicants for the above-identified patent application, declare as follows:

- 1. That some time on or prior to 21 March 2001, the inhibition of overactivity of phagocytes by administering hydroxymatairesinol identified in the instant application had been determined. That is, a human neutrophil sample was stimulated by addition of phorbolmyristate-acetate (PMS) to produce an oxidative burst. Addition of hydroxymatairesinol to the human neutrophil sample was found to inhibit oxidative burst stimulated by PMA.
- 2. That some time on or prior to 21 March 2001, the inhibition of overactivity of phagocytes by administering hydroxymatairesinol identified in the instant application had been determined. That is, a porcine neutrophil sample treated with hydroxymatairesinol was found to inhibit myeloperoxidase activity.

- 3. All of the above experiments were performed in laboratories at MCA Research Laboratory Ltd in Turku, Finland.
- 4. The date of the determination for each inhibition of overactivity was determined from notebook records. Copies of the notebook records evidencing the determination of the above inhibition of overactivities are attached hereto as follows:

Exhibit 1

Primary finding on inhibition of human neutrophil oxidative burst by hydroxymatairesinol was done in laboratories at MCA Research Laboratory Ltd. The assay was performed under our direction and supervision by research associate, Ms. Riikka Hirsinummi (RH). For measurement of oxidative burst she used Bio Orbit 1251 Luminometer (documents 1.1 and 1.2: copies of equipment notebook). Copies of of notes on her notebook (documents 1.3 and 1.4) show dilutions used and an outline of graphical presentation of reults. A copy of original data sheet is also enclosed (document 1.5).

Exhibit 2

Primary finding on inhibition of porcine neutrophil myeloperoxidase activity by hydroxymatairesinol was done in laboratories at MCA Research Laboratory Ltd. The assay was performed under our direction and supervision by research associate, Ms. Riikka Hirsinummi (RH). For measurement of myeloperoxidase activity she used Perkin Elmer UV/VIS Spectrophotometer Lambda 2 (documents 2.1., 2.2 and 2.3: copies of equipment notebook). Copy of her notes on her notebook (document 2.4) shows dilutions used. A copy of original data sheet is also enclosed (document 2.5).

These notebook records indicate that the above inhibition of overactivities were discovered prior to the corresponding dates set forth in the above paragraphs 1-2. All dates have been redacted in the attached photocopy of the relevant laboratory notebook pages so as to maintain the confidentiality of the actual date of invention.

5. It is further declared that the accompanying exhibits may not be a complete record of applicants' data concerning the invention of the instant patent application and are not necessarily meant to represent the earliest date of conception. The accompanying exhibits are presented

solely to prove a completion of the invention prior to the date of the Yesilada et al. (03/21/01) prior art cited by the Examiner in the Office Action dated 21 October 2004.

The declarants further state that the above statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine and/or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, Title 18 of the United States Code, and that any such willful false statement may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent resulting therefrom.

Dated: Tura Feb 14, 2005

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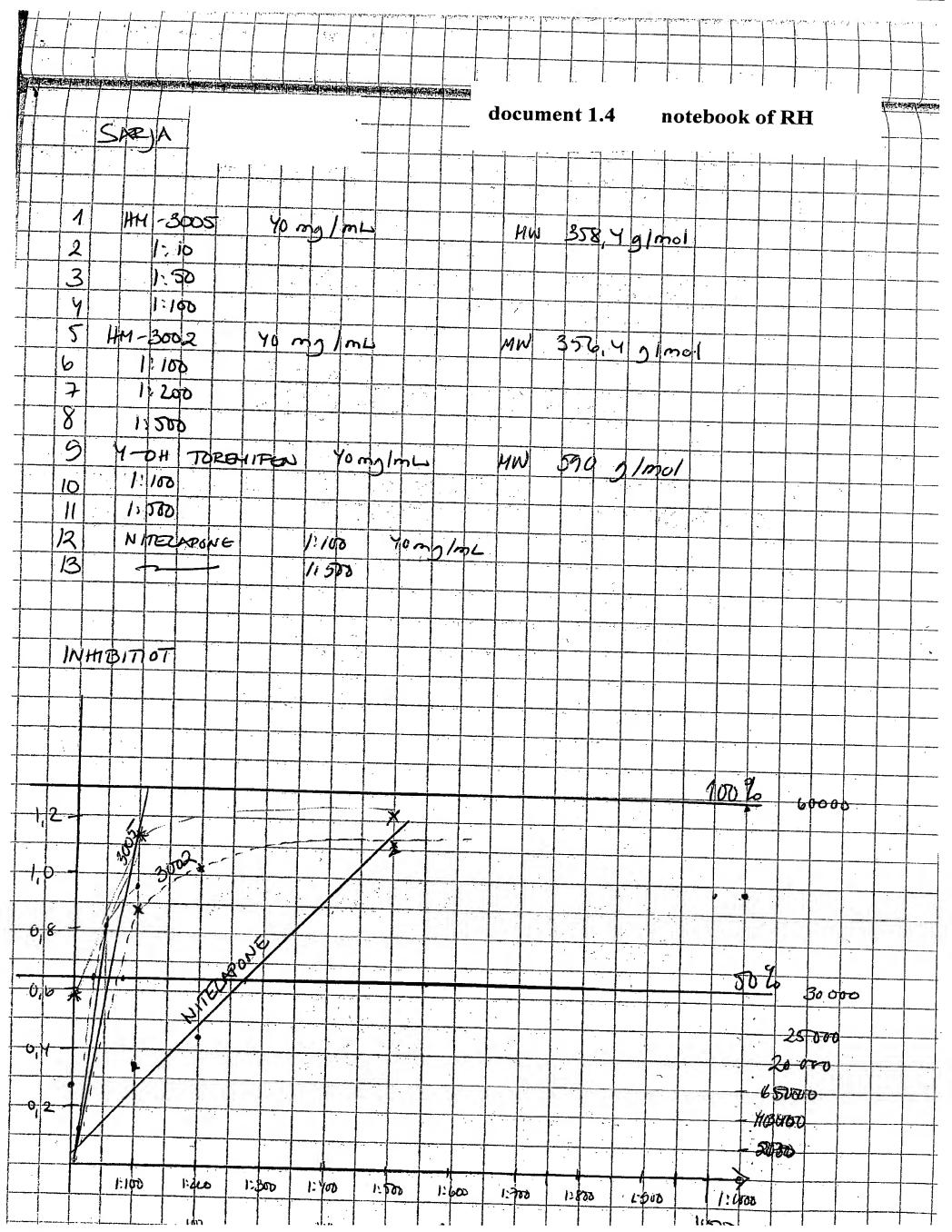
document 1.1 equipment notebook

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document 1.5 original data sheet

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document 2.1 equipment notebook

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Lambda 2

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